

Filed for intro on 01/31/2001

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 24
By Scroggs

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Lt. Jay Johnson for his outstanding service to the Germantown Police Department.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize the exemplary service of our law enforcement officers who heroically risk their lives each day to protect our citizens and communities; and

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret that we learned that one of Tennessee's best police officers, Lt. Jay Johnson, took a much deserved retirement on January 18, 2000, after twenty-five years of valued service with the Germantown Police Department; and

WHEREAS, he held the rank of Deputy Chief at his retirement; and

WHEREAS, the highly regarded Lt. Johnson grew up around police officers; and

WHEREAS, in September, 1989, he and Mike Griffus started the Germantown Police Department canine unit with two dogs donated to the city by the Memphis Police Department; and

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WHEREAS, his first canine partner was a chocolate Labrador retriever named Beau, who was followed by a German shepherd named Rex in 1995; and

WHEREAS, during his time on the force Lt. Johnson was a mentor to other officers, including Marc A. Molina, the 2000 Officer of the Year, who said “He had an individual style. He was a mentor who offered a lot of guidance.”; and

WHEREAS, although he is retiring from the Germantown Police Department, Lt. Johnson will continue to serve the public as a park ranger at Shelby Farms; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to salute Lt. Johnson for his dedicated public service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Lt. Jay Johnson on his retirement from the Germantown Police Department and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.